

## Partners for Efficiency

In a coordinated effort involving the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) and H&LP, a new process called De-TEA is being implemented. De-TEA transfers H&LP federal funds from TIB projects that have small amounts of federal funding and replaces the federal funds with state TIB funds. This process aims to relieve federal requirements from projects that are federally linked by virtue of the presence of federal funds only. The transfer is accomplished by reassigning the H&LP federal funds to larger TIB projects that already have federal links and can use the funds without increased costs.

The primary intent of De-TEA is to decrease administration costs to projects and increase project delivery. The federal requirements associated with utilizing federal funds can be burdensome and increase the administrative costs for smaller projects. Removing the federal financial ties will not only reduce administrative costs and allow faster progress toward construction, the larger projects should not notice any impact from the increase in federal funds.

For projects to be considered they must have both TIB state funding and H&LP federal funding. Subsequently, the projects can not have federal links due to environmental permitting requirements, obligated federal funds, or incurred project costs. Projects will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by both H&LP and TIB. Project prioritization will not be affected by implementing this process.

For more information, contact the Region Local Programs Engineer in your area:

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| • Keith Martin<br>Eastern Region           | Tel. (509) 324-6080<br>kuntzj@wsdot.wa.gov                   |
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You can also contact TIB at (360) 586-1140 for more information.